

but twenty-one miles wide. It would thus be practically impassable, and subject to an impossible barrier against submarine forces, thereby forcing the German navy either to abandon its plan of submarine raiding in the British channel or forcing it to send the submarines at great risk around the northern end of the British Isles.

Situation Grave.
Senators and House members, in informal discussions of the international situation, feel it to be one of exceptional gravity. The feeling would be even more so if it were not for the belief that secret instructions have been issued German submarines to refrain from attacking American vessels in the war zone with care. It is pointed out that Germany has fifty-five interned ships in American ports, in case of war, the United States would seize these. They are an invaluable part of the merchant marine which Germany expects to rehabilitate after the war. Their presence in American ports, it is believed by officials here, will tend to have the effect of making it difficult for their conduct toward American ships, cargoes, and lives in the war zone.

Notifies Holland of Mines in North Sea

BERLIN, Feb. 18. (Via London).—The German consul at Rotterdam today handed to the Rotterdam Chamber of Commerce a memorandum from the imperial chancery of Germany which stated that German submarines have been ordered to refrain from planting a large number of mines in the North Sea.

The memorandum stated emphatically that Germany would carry out its threat as to the mine-laying in the North Sea, and that the blockade would remain in force "until England agreed to observe the rules of the Paris and London declarations."

French Steamer Sunk In English Channel

PARIS, Feb. 18.—An official communication issued by the ministry of marine today announced that the French steamer *Ville de Lille*, of the *Barthelemy* line, a short distance east of the *Normandie*, after the submarine had ordered the crew to leave the steamer. The statement follows:
The French steamer *Ville de Lille* was sailing from Cherbourg to London, and was sighted by a German submarine on the 17th. The *Ville de Lille* was ordered to stop, but was outgunned by the submarine. The *Ville de Lille* was sunk by a torpedo. The crew was rescued by a British submarine. The *Ville de Lille* was a steamer of 2,000 tons.

Trans-Channel Service Ordered Suspended

FOLKSTONE, England, Feb. 18.—Steamship offices have posted notices that beginning today they will suspend traffic between Folkestone and Calais and Boulogne in the English channel "for a few days."

Dutch Ships Will Enter Zone Without Convoy

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 18.—According to the *Telegraaf*, the regular mail of the Royal Dutch Lloyd Steamship Company will not be halted by the German war zone order, and its steamers will sail as usual, although they will be prohibited zone without any convoy.

TO DEFEND CAPITAL AGAINST INVADER

Fortification of Cape Henry Will Be Started Next Year, Garrison Says.

The fortification of Cape Henry, on the Chesapeake Bay, which would protect Washington from an invading fleet in the event of some future war, is to be begun by the War Department next year, according to a statement made before the House Appropriations Committee by Secretary of War Garrison and made public today.

The testimony of Secretary Garrison indicated that it will require three years to complete the fortifications, the land already having been required.

Secretary Garrison said at hearings on the fortifications bill that unless the sum of \$1,750,000 were appropriated this year no time would be made in beginning the fortification work, and he asked for this amount. The Secretary indicated that reasons of economy prompted the withholding of the estimate until next year.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

The forecast for the District of Columbia-Fair tonight, which would mean much change in temperature, lowest temperature tonight about 35 degrees, fresh northerly wind.

Maryland-Fair tonight and Friday; strong northerly winds.

Virginia-Fair tonight and Friday; fresh northerly gales.

TEMPERATURE.
The temperature today as registered at the United States Weather Bureau and at other places:

U. S. BUREAU. AFFLECK'S.
8 a. m. 36. 8 a. m. 35.
9 a. m. 36. 9 a. m. 35.
10 a. m. 36. 10 a. m. 35.
11 a. m. 36. 11 a. m. 35.
12 m. 36. 12 m. 35.
1 p. m. 36. 1 p. m. 35.
2 p. m. 36. 2 p. m. 35.

High tide—11:41 a. m. and 11:22 p. m.
Low tide—5:36 a. m. and 5:44 p. m.

SUN TABLE.
Sun rises—6:46. Sun sets—5:45.

GERMANS DEFEATED IN CARPATHIANS AND GALICIA, SLAV CLAIM

Successes at Isolated Points Along Northern Battle Line Also Reported.

DEADLOCKED ALONG VISTULA

Teutonic Attack Repulsed in Lubne Studenne Region, and 1,400 Men Captured.

PETROGRAD, Feb. 18.—Distinct successes over the Germans and the Austro-German forces in Galicia, the Carpathians and at isolated points along the northern battle line are claimed by the war office today.

It declares that the fighting on the left bank of the Vistula is continually increasing in violence but that neither side has been able to gain any ground. North of the Nienmen, where the Russian forces have taken up new positions, the exchanges have been confined to cavalry patrol exchanges with little damage and the balance of success resting with the Russians.

In Galicia the Germans attacked in force along the front, from Khiva to Vykorotch and further east, but were repulsed with heavy losses.

RUSSIANS DEFEATED

Austria Claims Victory Over Slavs At Kolomea.

VIENNA, Feb. 18.—The war office claims a distinct success over the Russians. It is stated that after two days of fierce fighting, the Russians have been driven from Kolomea and that the city is now in the possession of the Austrians.

Search Hebrides for German Submarine Depot

LONDON, Feb. 18.—The admiralty has been told that four and possibly five German supply depots for submarines are being located in the Hebrides islands before the war. It is possible that others were established on the coast of Scotland.

Albanian Incursion Forces Serb Retreat

NISB, Feb. 18.—Albanian attacks upon the Serbian frontier posts are developing along the entire boundary. The Serbian troops in the Hebrides are being attacked in force, and Schaffhausen has fallen into the hands of the Albanians.

British Cruiser Stops Norfolk-Bound Vessel

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—After a chase down the coast, the British auxiliary cruiser *Caronia* overhauled and stopped at a point off Asbury Park, N. J., the Norwegian steamship *Strinda*, outward bound from this port for Norfolk.

Place Bomb-Proof Nets On Buckingham Palace

LONDON, Feb. 18.—The private apartments of the royal family in Buckingham Palace are being protected against possible German air raids.

De Wet Planned Republic.

BLOEMFONTEIN, South Africa, Feb. 18.—The formation of a republic to include all the possessions of England in South Africa was the subject of the recent Boer uprising led by Gen. Christiaan De Wet, according to testimony produced at the trial of De Wet and others who are charged with treason.

Two Suspects Accused Of Car Barn Robbery

Arrest of One of Women Sought in Connection With \$2,000 Hold-Up Leads to Formal Charge Against Maddox and Curren.

Two of the men arrested on suspicion of being the masked robbers who held up the clerks in the "east barn" of the Washington Railway and Electric Company and escaped with \$2,000 early Monday morning, were formally charged with the crime today, following the arrest of one of the women whom the police have been hunting since the arrest of the suspects.

Warrants charging the two men, Benjamin Maddox and Clarence Curren, with robbery were issued by the United States Attorney's office shortly after the police had questioned the woman prisoner, Mrs. Edna Shook.

WOMAN'S HUSBAND ALSO IN CELL.

The woman, the police say, is the wife of Harry H. Shook, who was arrested at the time that Curren and Maddox were taken into custody and who is still being held at the Ninth precinct station for investigation.

The Shook woman is charged with the larceny of a piece of jewelry from the car barn robbery. It is known that she took a watch and a diamond ring and other things which aroused their suspicion in the rooms of Maddox at 501 D street, northeast.

The vicinity around the Pennsylvania avenue bridge is being secured by detectives, who are looking for the crowd of robbers being placed against Curren and Maddox. It is known that they took a watch and a diamond ring and other things which aroused their suspicion in the rooms of Maddox at 501 D street, northeast.

No charge has been placed against Shook, the police explaining that he is merely held as a witness. John Waters, the fourth man arrested in connection with the robbery, proved to the satisfaction of the police that he was in no way implicated and was released.

The police are reticent as to what evidence they have to warrant the charge of robbery being placed against Curren and Maddox. It is known that they took a watch and a diamond ring and other things which aroused their suspicion in the rooms of Maddox at 501 D street, northeast.

The police expressed hope of recovering part of the money and car wickets stolen within a short time, intimating that favorable developments may come tonight.

Britain Undaunted As 'Der Tag' Dawns

LONDON, Feb. 18.—"Der tag" dawned cold, wet, and gloomy throughout the British Isles. A driving rain swept over the various harbors and checked the German fleet, but there was no halting of sailings anywhere. British imperturbability was utterly unaffected by the inauguration of the German submarine blockade.

Englishmen took each other that there would be losses. But they will be received "as all in the game" and there is the most supreme confidence that the British navy will prevent any interference with the big liners or the smaller craft.

There is a minority of the population who believe that the entire affair is a gigantic bluff and that Germany will do no more in the future than she has in the past with her submarines.

All navigable waters about the British Isles are today being patrolled by the greatest fleet of war craft that ever was placed in the world's service.

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DEFEAT BY FRENCH IN PCONE REGION, ADMITTED IN BERLIN

Village of Nonay and Hill Commanding It Recaptured by Superior Force.

ENTRENCHMENTS BLOWN UP

Heavy Fighting Continues to North of Rheims—Allies Succeed Only To Be Driven Back

BERLIN, Feb. 18.—(via wireless to London).—The German war office admitted a material reverse in the Argonne region today. It states that the village of Nonay and the hill commanding it, previously captured from the French, were evacuated in the face of a superior force.

Before leaving, the German troops are declared to have destroyed with dynamite the entrenchments that had been constructed by the French.

Very heavy fighting continues to the north of Rheims, about Lille and Arras and to the north of Perthes, where the French and British have succeeded in penetrating the German advanced trenches, only to be later driven back.

The series of battles is constantly increasing in intensity, and the German reports declare that the enemy is losing very heavily.

General French's attacks along the Boureslles-Vauquois line, south of the forest of Argonne, are declared to have completely failed.

More Prisoners Taken.

It is stated that the number of prisoners taken yesterday has been increased to 11 officers and 75 soldiers.

In the eastern arena it is stated that in the district northwest of Grodno and near Turougen the pursuing German forces are now engaged with the enemy. North of Lomza and near Plock and Bialystok engagements have terminated in favor of the Germans, who have taken 2,000 additional prisoners.

Nothing new is reported from Poland, where the German army has captured the total number of prisoners captured on the East Prussian frontier is placed at 6,000 with 11 cannon, more than 30 machine guns, 3 hospital trains, 15 cars filled with ammunition, 15 cars filled with food, 15 cars filled with horses and not all of the booty is yet accounted for.

Private advices from Berlin from really dependable sources declare that Germany has not less than 30 submarines available for service in the war zone. Ever since last August the public has known that Germany has a large fleet of submarines, but the exact number and the details of the fleet have been kept secret.

All of the new craft are of the type, capable of remaining away from the base for three or four weeks at a time, and equipped for pneumatic travel. They are made of steel, and are capable of operating on the Irish coast and at the entrance to the channel.

The light-heartedness of the average British clubman was the betting last night in the city. These vessels are being built at 3 to 1 that not a single merchantman will be sunk before midnight tonight.

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First Speech in House Nearly Got Him in 'Pen'

New Floor Leader a Stickler for Maintaining the Dignity of Congress.

By EDWARD L. CONN.

"Congress is a co-ordinate, not a subordinate, branch of the Government, and to have the respect of other departments we must have self-respect. The only way to have harmony in the Government is for every department of it to have respect for the others."

In words to that effect Claude Kitchin, indicated to his associates and incidentally to the President that he would seek to maintain in the House during his leadership a complete independence, though he let it be known that he would, of course, co-operate heartily in the fulfillment of party promises.

While having differed with the President on important issues, the next floor leader of the House still in opposition to Wilson, but he will vote his own convictions in anything involving a principle, no matter if the President is on the other side.

Mr. Kitchin was one of the active organizers of the House when the Democrats gained control of it in 1910. They had pledged themselves to the people to take the power of appointing committees out of the hands of the Speaker, and when Congress convened there were some Democrats who wanted to violate that promise in the House.

Mr. Kitchin led the fight to keep the faith, to reorganize the system of appointing committees. He might have succeeded, and restoring the power to the House, but the Democrats were not strong enough to do so.

The new system makes the Ways and Means chairman one of the most powerful men in the Government. His influence extends to the Speaker, the President, and the Senate. He is the leader of his party in all its policies and legislation.

Mr. Kitchin is a man of great ability and great energy. He is a man of great ability and great energy. He is a man of great ability and great energy.

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